

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Preister. Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I doubt very much that anyone is going to bring an action against someone who, in an act of compassion, releases a domestic animal of some sort in distress. But the act also covers the property that the individual may have, his fishing reels and tackle box, his hunting equipment, his camping gear that he may be using during this activity, and, in this case, the traps themselves. If an individual was so inclined and would walk along in a person's trapping line and physically take his traps or spring everyone of them so that they cannot catch anything, that is an act of harassment also. So I don't think that it's proper to take this particular activity out of this bill and I would again ask you to vote no on this amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Elmer. Senator Avery.

SENATOR AVERY: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, I have to stand up in opposition to this. One of the things that I've been asked several times by landowners to assist in trapping and trapping in the process and I found that it's real dangerous to try to release, especially wild animals, from traps, and individuals as even a muskrat that's small can leave a very vicious wound if that happens. So it's something that even a penalty may be the better source if it had to be versus trying to release a wild animal. I ask that you vote this down. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Avery. Senator Preister, there are no other lights on wishing to speak on this amendment, you are recognized to close.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, honorable President, friends all, thank you for this opportunity to at least share this information. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I believe our rules allow for us to have a call of the house and to have that go on at the time I'm speaking. I would like to exercise that if we could have a vote on a call of the house, please.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The question is, shall the house go under call? All those in favor of a call of the house vote yes. All those opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.